

Resolution # 170
Resolution Concerning a Regional State Committee

WHEREAS, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in its proposed rulemaking on Standard Market Design (SMD) in July 2002, invited states to form Regional State Committees (RSC) to address policy and regulatory issues arising from the implementation and operation of the SMD in regional electricity markets; and

WHEREAS, the New England states are primarily linked through a regional electricity grid (operated by the Independent System Operator – New England, Inc. (ISO-NE, Inc.)) which transcends individual state borders in many planning, siting and transmission-related issues; and the ISO-NE, Inc. is currently seeking to increase its independence and improve the operation of the New England market through the creation of a Regional Transmission Organization (RTO); and

WHEREAS, many of the policies impacting multi-jurisdictional areas will need to be developed and implemented with due consideration of a broad range of public policies, including regulatory, energy, and environmental objectives, to ensure the balancing and integration of competing public policies and regulatory considerations; and

WHEREAS, the New England Governors' Conference, Inc.'s (NEGC) Power Planning Committee, in consultation with the NEGC's Committee on the Environment, has developed a proposal on the formation of a RSC in New England which incorporates the political considerations and range of policy issues that a RSC would need to resolve; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the NEGC endorses the proposal "To Create a Regional State Committee on Electricity Policy" drafted by its Power Planning Committee and asks the FERC to approve this proposal as the RSC structure for the New England region; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the NEGC agrees that the initial scope of the RSC, as outlined in the proposal, should include issues related to resource adequacy and system planning, and the RSC should evaluate approaches to facilitating interstate transmission siting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the New England Governors direct their respective staffs to implement the recommendations outlined in this proposal.

Adopted at the Meeting of the New England Governors' Conference, Inc., September 8, 2003.

John G. Rowland
Governor of Connecticut
Chair